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Subject: Wrestling: Lehigh upends Bucknell 34-12 in return to Grace Hall
Date: January 11, 2019 at 8:27 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients;



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Story on Lehighsports.com:

<https://lehighsports.com/news/2019/1/11/wrestling-lehigh-upends-bucknell-34-12-in-return-to-grace-hall.aspx>

Lehigh upends Bucknell 34-12 in return to Grace Hall

BETHLEHEM, Pa. – In its first home action in nearly six weeks, Lehigh piled up the bonus points in a 34-12 win over Bucknell Friday night inside Leeman-Turner Arena at Grace Hall. The Mountain Hawks won seven bouts, scoring bonus points in five, including three first period pins to post their second straight dual win overall and their first home and EIWA win of the season.

“It was a good performance,” Lehigh head coach Pat Santoro said. “We were a little apprehensive coming in because last time we were home we didn’t wrestle very well. We came out and wrestled much better. As the matches went on we became more relaxed.”

The Mountain Hawks (2-7) dropped the opening bout as Jakob Campbell topped freshman Luke Resnick 8-3 at 125, but sophomore Brandon Paetzell started a three-bout Lehigh run with a first period pin at 133. Facing David Campbell, Paetzell locked up a cradle and took Campbell to his back, securing the fall at 2:07 to put Lehigh in front 6-3.

“Brandon’s having a nice season and he has some really good wins,” Santoro said. “We knew bonus points were going to be big tonight and he got some.”

Paetzell’s win was followed by a 5-3 decision by junior Ryan Pomrinca over Joey Gould at 141. After a scoreless first period, Pomrinca scored takedowns in the second and third periods, plus a third period escape.

Senior Cortlandt Schuyler followed with an 8-3 decision over Matthew Kolonia at 149 to put the Mountain Hawks up 12-3. Schuyler scored two first period takedowns, added one more in the second plus an escape and riding time advantage.

The featured bout of the night matched nationally-ranked true freshmen Josh Humphreys and Zach Hartman at 157. After a scoreless first period, Humphreys used strong work on top to ride out the second, but Hartman returned the favor with a strong ride in the third and caught Humphreys in a cradle, securing the fall at 5:51 to cut Lehigh’s lead to 12-9 at intermission.

“Josh was doing a great job but he got caught in a Navy ride that turned into a cradle,” Santoro said. “Hartman’s really good. Josh will make adjustments so I’m excited to see how he does when we get to conference and NAAs.”

Lehigh won the first three bouts coming out of intermission to go up 28-9. Senior Gordon Wolf gave up the first takedown to D.J. Hollingshead at 165, but scored the next 12 points to put himself in line for a major decision. The match was delayed several minutes when Hollingshead went into the concussion protocol. He was cleared but when he was about to go into the protocol a second time, he instead defaulted to Wolf at the 6:10 mark.

At 174, junior Jordan Kutler was dominant on his feet, racking up 10 takedowns in a 22-8 major decision over Nick Stephani.

Sophomore Chris Weiler made his season dual debut in place of senior Ryan Preisch at 184 and made quick work of Kyle Inlander, converting a double leg takedown and then locking up a cradle for a 40 second fall.

“Chris can put some bonus points up and he did just that,” Santoro said. “He likes to wrestle, especially in front of a crowd like we had tonight. He did a great job.”

Bucknell (2-5) picked up its third win at 197 as Drew Phipps edged sophomore Kyle Gentile 3-1. The match was tied 1-1 late in the third when a stall warning was issued to both wrestlers. Gentile took a shot but as countered for the winning score in the final seconds.

Sophomore Jordan Wood closed out the dual by taking Eric Chakonis down twice in the first minute, the second time to his back for the fall in 57 seconds.

The Mountain Hawks will host No. 7 Cornell Saturday in the annual Billy Sheridan Memorial Dual, Saturday at 2 p.m. inside Leeman-Turner Arena at Grace Hall. A limited number of tickets remain available and can be purchased online at LehighTickets.com.

The 2018-19 Lehigh wrestling season is presented by the Historic Hotel Bethlehem.

Lehigh 34, Bucknell 12

125 – Jakob Campbell (Bucknell) dec. Luke Resnick (Lehigh) 8-3

133 – Brandon Paetzell (Lehigh) Fall David Campbell (Bucknell) 2:07

141 – Ryan Pomrinca (Lehigh) dec. Joey Gould (Bucknell) 5-3

149 – Cortlandt Schuyler (Lehigh) dec. Matthew Kolonia (Bucknell) 8-3

157 – Zach Hartman (Bucknell) Fall Josh Humphreys (Lehigh) 5:51

165 – Gordon Wolf (Lehigh) injury default D.J. Hollingshead (Bucknell) 6:10

174 – Jordan Kutler (Lehigh) major dec. Nick Stephani (Bucknell) 22-8

184 – Chris Weiler (Lehigh) Fall Kyle Inlander (Bucknell) 0:40

197 – Drew Phipps (Bucknell) dec. Kyle Gentile (Lehigh) 3-1

285 – Jordan Wood (Lehigh) Fall Eric Chakonis (Bucknell) 0:57

Attendance – 1,461

Officials – Kevin Neville and Thomas Fraher

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